



Att'y. Dkt. No. 040301-0575

AT/ 2664
61/

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Shigeo MATSUZAWA et al.

Title: ROUTER DEVICE AND CUT-THROUGH PATH CONTROL METHOD FOR
REALIZING LOAD BALANCING AT INTERMEDIATE ROUTERS

RECEIVED

Appl. No.: 09/429,632

SEP 23 2004

Filing Date: 10/29/1999

Technology Center 2600

Examiner: Chuong T. Ho

Art Unit: 2664

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

09/21/2004 EFLURES 00000031 09429632

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TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of either a final action under 37 CFR §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. Accordingly, a statement and fee are required.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

In a counterpart Japanese application, a Japanese Office Action issued on July 27, 2004. According to an English translation of the Japanese Office Action obtained by Applicants' representative, the Japanese Patent Office made certain characterizations of the references.

According to an English translation of the Japanese Office Action, document B1 teaches that a path to set up based on the number of connections of each path is selected at the time connections are being set up.

According to an English translation of the Japanese Office Action, document B2 teaches that paths are modified based on the amount of traffic.

As noted, the characterizations of the Japanese Patent Office noted above are based on an English translation obtained by Applicants' representative. The disclosure of these characterizations should not be construed as an admission of or agreement with the opinions expressed in the Japanese Office Action.

Applicant respectfully requests that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

STATEMENT

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to filing of this Statement.

FEE

A fee in connection with submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 CFR §1.97(d) in the amount of \$180.00 in accordance with 37 CFR §1.17(p) is attached.

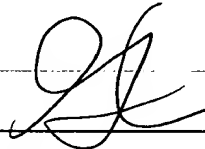
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date September 20, 2004

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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: September 20, 2004 (use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	09/429,632
				Filing Date	10/29/1999
				First Named Inventor	Shigeo MATSUZAWA
				Group Art Unit	2665
				Examiner Name	Chuong T. Ho
				Attorney Docket Number	040301-0575
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	B1	JP	10-262046	A	FUJITSU LTD.	09-29-1998		Abst.
	B2	JP	7-235939	A	FUJITSU LTD.	09-05-1995		Abst.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.